

Meeting Minutes Approved - June 14, 2007

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MAY 24, 2007

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, May 24, 2007 at the Cumberland Administrative Office/Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, was called to order at 7:30 PM, by Chairman Frederic C. Crowley, with the following present:

Frederic C. Crowley, Chairman, Robert Thibodeau, Vice Chair, Karen MacBeth, Clerk, Lisa Beaulieu, Donald J. Costa, W. David Wagner, Earl T. Wood

Also Present: Donna A. Morelle, Ed.D., Superintendent; Susan C. Carney, Ph.D, Assistant Superintendent; Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director of Administration

I. Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Wagner.

II. Approval of Agenda - On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the agenda, without Mr.

Costa.

III. Chairperson's Report - The Chair noted the passing of Barbara Tattersall. Mr. Crowley also reported attending a RIASC meeting, noting Mr. Duffy will be attending the June 26 school committee meeting to discuss the Board of Regents' Standards of Conduct.

IV. Report of Standing Committees

A. Personnel Committee - Ms. MacBeth reported the job description for the Director of Special Education has been sent back to the committee for review.

B. Finance

1. Payment of Bills - On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Ms. MacBeth, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE payments in the amount of \$64,765.31 and \$951,103.13, without Mr. Costa.

2. Bids

a. Partitions - Mr. Thibodeau made a motion to approve the bid for partitions for JJM/Cumberland Hill School in the amount of \$8,770 by New England Construction. Ms. MacBeth provided a second. Mr. Wood noted he would be abstaining due to the pending litigation regarding items not on the agenda for a vote. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE the motion, with the following AYE: Mr. Wagner, Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. MacBeth, Mr. Crowley; ABSTAIN: Mr. Wood, Ms. Beaulieu, and Mr. Costa not having arrived.

b. Dishwashers - Mr. Thibodeau made a motion to approve the purchase of dishwashers in the amount of \$14,250 bid by GEM. A

second by provided by Ms. MacBeth. The Chair asked Mr. Rotella if this was properly advertised and could it be voted upon and Mr. Rotella responded in the affirmative to both questions.

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On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 4-0 TO APPROVE the motion, with the following voting AYE: Mr. Wagner, Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. MacBeth, Mr. Crowley; ABSTAIN: Mr. Wood, Ms. Beaulieu, and Mr. Costa not having arrived.

Mr. Costa's arrival is noted at 7:40 p.m.

V. Consent Agenda

A. Personnel Recommendations - The Superintendent presented the following:

1. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. Wagner, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the retirement of Susanne Barrach, Grade 4 Teacher at Community School, effective at the end of the 2006-2007 school year, with the Superintendent noting technically June 30, 2007.

2. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. Wagner, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the retirement of Joan Butler, Kindergarten Teacher at Community School, effective June 30, 2007.

3. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. Wagner, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the FMLA Parental Leave of Sarah Bieleck, English Teacher at Cumberland High School, effective for the 2007-2008 school year.

4. Mr. Costa made a motion to approve the Job Share request of Leslee Desauliers, Grade 3 Teacher at JJM Cumberland Hill Elementary School, effective for the 2007-2007 school year (budgeted). Mr. Wagner provided a second. Discussion ensued regarding handling the request of both job share participants as one motion. The motion and second were WITHDRAWN.

On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wagner, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the Job Share appointment of Leslee Deslaurier and Tracie Drolet, Grade 3 Teachers at JJM Cumberland Hill Elementary School, effective for the 2007-2008 school year (budgeted).

5. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. Wagner, it was UNANI- MOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the Job Share appointment of Andrea Friedland and Renee Calabro, Grade 3 Teachers at Community School, effective for the 2007-2008 school year (budgeted).

6. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE rescinding the action taking by the school committee on February 22, 2007 not to renew the employment of Audrey Wilkinson, to be recalled to the job pool effective 5/25/07.

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VI. Old Business

A. Building Committee Update - Mr. Wood reported the CHS2010 Building Committee met Monday and voted on additional value engineering items in an effort to save money. The steel has been delivered and is starting to go up. The 3.5 Building Committee met Wednesday and there is a proposal before the Town Council on the June 6th agenda and they will either approve it or vote it down. They are still talking to the Mayor and Mr. Higgins about alternate funding for Cumberland Hill. Mr. Costa asked about security and Mr. Wood explained the equipment will be purchased and installed as construction continues.

VII. New Business

A. Recalls - See Personnel.

B. Approval of Updated Affirmative Action Policy - On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Mr. Wagner, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE tabling.

VIII. Superintendent's Report - The Superintendent reported attending the celebration of Distinguished Scholars in the morning.

The Valedictorian is Matthew Shalvoy and the Salutatorian is Saad Alam. She reminded committee member of the number of up coming ceremonies as well as the budget session Tuesday, May 29th at 7:00 p.m. in Town Council Chambers. There will be two public hearings, May 30th at 7:00 p.m. and June 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Dr. Morelle explained she is concerned for parking at he campus and is looking into providing a shuttle from Tucker Field. Ms. Beaulieu suggested the town's senior shuttle.

IX. Comments from the Public - Mr. McLaughlin thanked the Superintendent and committee members for their assistance with the fund raising for the Debate Team, stating they raised \$8,200. Mr. Kelly commented on the voting of items on the finance committee agenda and was ruled out of order by the Chair. The Chair asked Mr. Kelly to remove himself.

X. School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports) - Ms. MacBeth reported tonight and tomorrow night is talent night at NCMS and the students and teachers have been working hard. Mr. Wood thanked all the teachers, administration and students for their work on Thursday's Celebration of Learning. Mr. Thibodeau recognized Mr. Hilton for the community grant for generators at Ashton and Community Schools. Ms. Beaulieu thanked Mr. Driscoll for today's ceremony, stating it was a testimony to the school. She also thanked the Town Council for the workshop on Tuesday. She reported Ashton has elected new PTO officers and recognized Community School's

variety show. Mr. Crowley congratulated the students inducted into the National Honor Society.

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A brief recess was called at 8:11 p.m. to proceed with Item X1.

XI. Personnel Matter

A. Teacher Termination Hearing Pursuant to RIGLI 16-12-6 for William Hicks - See separate notes.

XII. Vote to go Into Executive Session for Discussion and/or Action Items Referred to in GLRI 42-46-5

A. Personnel Matters - Exception (1)

1. CTA/ICSE

B. Negotiations/Litigation - Exception (2)

1. CTA/ICSE

2. Central Administrators' Contracts

3. Non-Contractual Salaries

4. Potential Litigation

Mr. Costa made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Mr. Wood provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 4-3 TO APPROVE the motion, with the following voted AYE: Mr. Wagner, Ms. MacBeth, Mr. Costa, Mr. Crowley; NAY: Mr. Wood, Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. Beaulieu. Open Session recessed at 11:17 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 11:25 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Mr. Wagner, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE sealing the Executive Session minutes.

XIII. Adjournment - On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Mr. Wagner, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE adjourning Open Session at 11:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Harris

Recording Secretary

Approved by the School Committee June 14, 2007